

Message Text

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14

ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 EB-11 COA-02 INT-08 SCI-06 EPA-04

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 EUR-25 L-03 DODE-00

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DRAFTED BY COMMERCE/NOAA:PFOX:CJP

08/31/73 EXT: 183-5646

APPROVED BY S/FW-COA:HLHEYMANN

AF/S - MR. ELLISON

----- 115650

R 312043Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS STATE 174287

TAGS:TBIOENV, SF

REF: A. PRETORIA 1883 B. STATE 092885

1. PER PARA. 1(C) REFTEL (A) REQUEST EMBASSY INQUIRE AS TO ACCEPTABILITY PROPOSED TRIP OF U.S. EXPERT AND WHETHER HARVESTING WILL STILL BE UNDERWAY DURING PROPOSED TIME PERIOD. PROPOSED TRIP WOULD HAVE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF OBSERVING MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES AND HUMANENESS OF HARVEST. FIRST-HAND OBSERVATION FELT TO BE NECESSARY IN MAKING DECISION ON WAIVER OF MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTION ACT AND THEN PERMIT TO FOUKE COMPANY TO IMPORT SOUTH AFRICAN FUR SEAL-SKINS FROM NEXT YEAR'S HARVEST.

2. EXPERT PROPOSED IS WALTER KIRKNESS, DEPUTY ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE, NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. MR. KIRKNESS IS U.S. COMMISSIONER TO NORTH PACIFIC FUR SEAL COMMISSION (INTERNATIONAL BODY RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGEMENT OF NORTH PACIFIC FUR SEALS) AND HAS LONG EXPERIENCE IN U.S. MANAGEMENT OF THESE SEALS.
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IF ACCEPTABLE SAG, MR. KIRKNESS WOULD ARRIVE JOHANNESBURG,

8:30 P.M., SEPTEMBER 16, AND LEAVE OCTOBER 2.

3. IF TRIP ACCEPTABLE, REQUEST EMBASSY ARRANGE DETAILS WITH SAG AND OTHERS FOR MR. KIRKNESS (A) TO VISIT ROOKERIES WHILE HARVESTING TAKING PLACE, PREFERABLY BOTH PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT; (B) TO MEET WITH BIOLOGISTS AND ADMINISTRATORS CONCERNED WITH FUR SEALS AND THE HARVEST, (C) TO MEET WITH FISHERMEN AND REPRESENTATIVES OF CONSERVATION GROUPS, AND (D) TO MEET WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO COULD DISCUSS POSSIBLE BILATERAL CONSERVATION AGREEMENT ON FUR SEALS.

FYI: UNDER ROOKERY LOCATION AND ACCESS MAKE IT NECESSARY MR. KIRKNESS BE PROVIDED ASSISTANCE BY SAG OFFICIAL IN TRAVELING TO AND FROM ROOKERIES. ROGERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE174287
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PFOX:CJP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973082/aaaaaavt.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN COME
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. PRETORIA 1883 B. STATE 092885
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04-Jan-2002 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2002 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: TBIO, SENV
To: CAPE TOWN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005